GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2141
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
Effects of Smoking on Children
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deaths caused due to smoking and consumption of tobacco products during the last three years, State/ UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government has made any assessment/survey on the effects of passive smoking on children vulnerable to cardiovascular disease;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the children from the ill effects of passive smoking along with the further measures taken by the Government to discourage the consumption of smoking and tobacco products and make the country tobacco free?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a): No such State/UT-wise data is available with this Ministry.
As per the report of Tobacco Control in India (2004), nearly 8-9 lakh people die every year due to diseases attributable to tobacco use. As per the ICMR study "Assessment of Burden of Disease due to Non-Communicable Diseases (2006)", based on analysis of published literature till 2004, the risk of disease attributable to tobacco use was 78% for stroke, 65.6% for tuberculosis, 85.2% for ischemic heart disease, 52% for acute myocardial infarction, 43% for oesophageal cancer, and 16% for lung cancer, respectively.
A nationally representative study on smoking and death in India (published in 2008) found that smoking causes a large and growing number of premature deaths in the country. The study estimated that in 2010, the annual number of deaths from smoking in India would be around 10 lakhs.
(b): No such assessment/survey has been conducted by this Ministry.
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As per "Training Manual for Doctors" furnished by this Ministry under the National Tobacco Control Programme, exposure to second hand smoke results in SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), chronic respiratory infections, exacerbation/worsening of asthma, reduced lung function growth, middle ear diseases, and acute respiratory illnesses among children.
(d): The Government has taken measures including, inter alia, the following to protect children from the ill-effects of passive smoking and to discourage the consumption of smoking and tobacco products:
(i) Enactment of the "Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003".
(ii) Ratification of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
(iii) Launch of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in the year 2007-08, with the objectives to (a) create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption, (b) reduce the production and supply of tobacco products, (c) ensure effective implementation of the anti-tobacco laws and (d) help the people quit tobacco use through Tobacco Cessation Centres.
(iv) Notification of rules to ban smoking in public places.
(iv) Notification of rules to regulate depiction of tobacco products or their use in films and TV programmes.
(v) Notification of rules on new pictorial health warnings on tobacco product packages.
(vi) Launch of public awareness campaigns through a variety of media.
Government of India has issued regulations under the Food Safety & Standards Act 2006 which lay down that tobacco or nicotine cannot be used as ingredients in food products. Manufacturing or sale of certain smokeless tobacco products has been prohibited under these regulations. Other tobacco products are regulated by the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA 2003), which contain provisions, inter alia, relating to ban on sale of tobacco products by/to minors, ban on sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions, ban on promotions/advertisements of tobacco products, etc.
The State Governments/UTs of Uttarakhand, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand have issued orders/notifications banning the sale of loose cigarettes.
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